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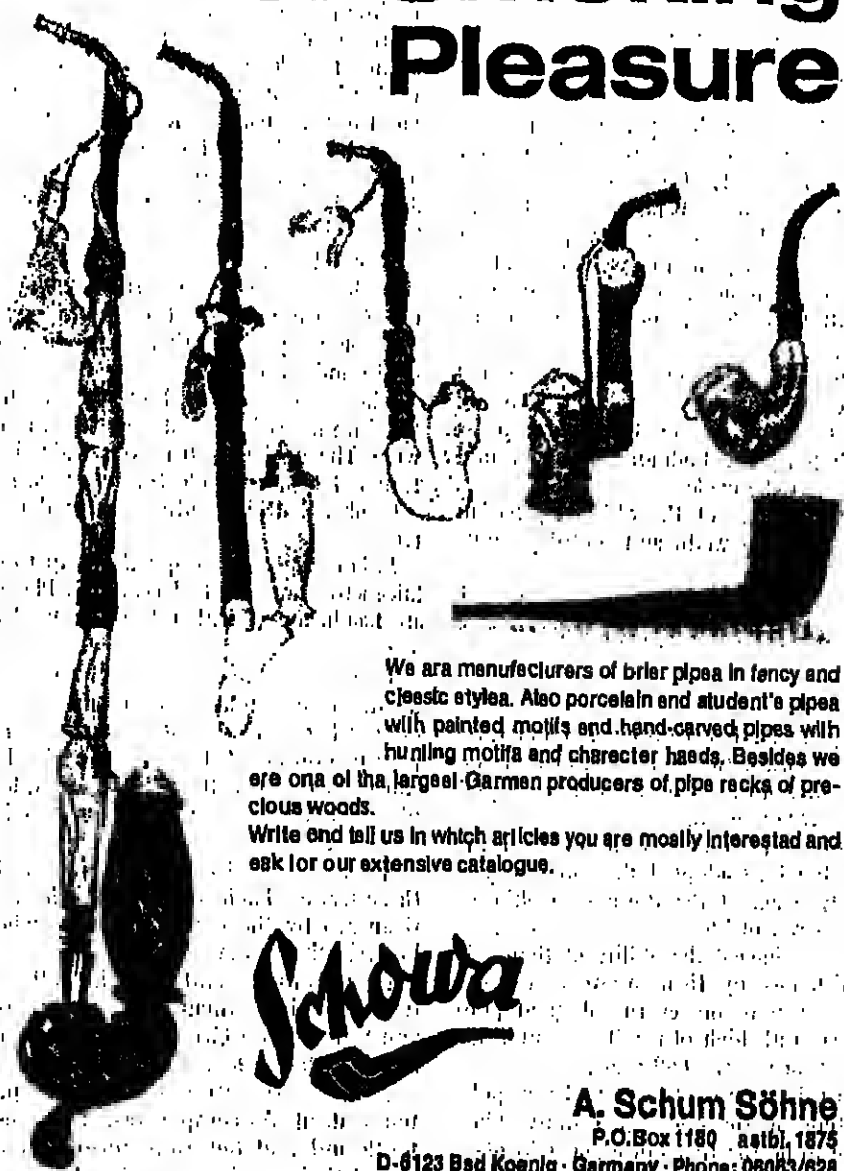
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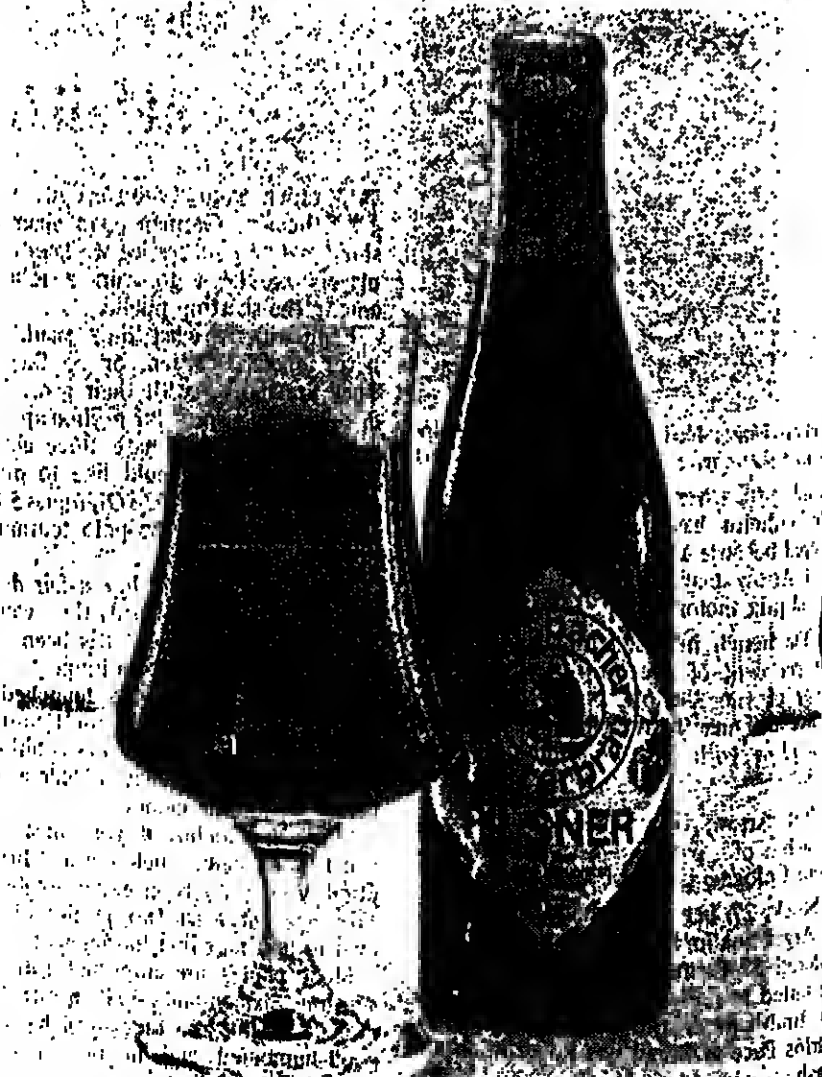
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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 20 August 1978
Seventeenth Year - No. 853 - By air

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Anxiety grows on arms deadlock

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Everybody talks about disarmament but nobody disarms. Despite what East and West are pleased to call détente the arms race continues unabated. Salt II, the strategic arms limitation agreement between Washington and Moscow, did not reduce superpower military capacity; indeed, it hardly hampered further expansion.

The Vienna MBFR talks on troop cuts in Central Europe are marking time and an increasing number of countries have joined the arms race in recent years.

The oil-rich Arab countries and Iran have gone in for military hardware in a big way.

It is enough to make peace research and disarmament specialists in the West, who for years have untiringly drawn up fresh blueprints for a more peaceful world, gradually despair.

Their efforts are useless. No matter what they come up with, reality proves more powerful, a reality dominated, as ever, by mutual mistrust and lust for power.

The world's trouble spots are increasing in number, and the rule of reason seems to be gaining ground, not giving way to an international order governed by peace and harmony.

This is the background against which the Social Democratic parliamentary party in the Bonn Bundestag has called on the government to appoint a Minister for Disarmament after the next elections.

The federal government already has a

The proposal is well-meant but of doubtful value. It is probably based on experience, over the past year or two, of a continual tug-of-war between the Foreign and Defence ministries and the Chancellor's Office on important aspects of arms and disarmament.

This has been due to a clash of experts' views frequently diametrically opposed. A Minister of State is now expected to lean towards political decisions.

In other words, Bonn ought sometimes to set aside security considerations and put forward proposals to further disarmament come what may.

This impatience is understandable, but impatience is a poor counsellor, especially now. Bonn cannot influence the Salt talks but does have a say at the MBFR conference in Vienna.

In Vienna the Soviet Union has consistently used delaying tactics, for years, rejecting each Western proposal and awaited the next, which has been marginally more in keeping with the Kremlin's ambitions.

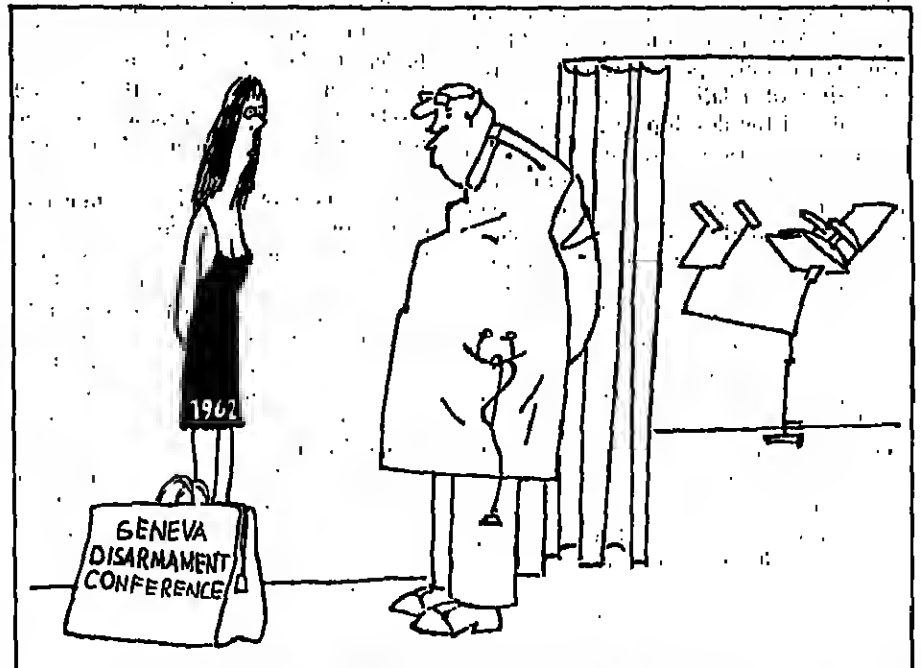
In the meantime, the Soviet Union has not been inactive. In the years since the MBFR talks began, Moscow has powerfully reinforced, both in men and firepower, its strength in Central Europe.

While the West aims at parity in the region, Moscow is making sure that East bloc superiority is increased. Parity can now only be achieved by even greater Soviet troop cuts than necessary when talks began.

Yet the Soviet Union insists on equal cuts by both sides, which would consolidate East bloc superiority.

Given this tactic by the Kremlin, impatience would be the worst mistake the West could make. A political decision is just what Moscow wants.

Arms and disarmament are a sector poorly suited for tokens of goodwill which do little more than weaken one's own position.



"Well, my dear, it seems you are in your 216th month."

(Cartoon: Wolter/Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt)

What is needed is the opposite: a breakthrough for specialised knowledge, for expertise. Specialists would nowadays be inclined to abandon the ideas evolved by the West years ago when the MBFR talks began.

A numerical reduction in armed forces on both sides has been rendered largely irrelevant by recent advances in weapons technology.

No-one will deny that the East enjoys military superiority in Europe. Even Moscow admits this, arguing that superiority in Europe is offset by worldwide US technological superiority in intercontinental ballistic missiles.

But this is an equation the West cannot afford to acknowledge. Its aim must be a state of affairs in Europe in which the East is no longer able to put its military strength to full use.

This means primarily that some counterweight to the overwhelming predominance of Soviet tanks in Europe must be found. Manpower is well-nigh irrelevant.

The neutron bomb could have been this counterweight to Soviet tanks but it is not, for the time being, to be manufactured.

Other options are on the horizon, especially non-nuclear armour-piercing shells with devastating accuracy provided by advanced technology.

The West could dispense with these weapons if the Soviet Union were only to withdraw some of its tanks from Central Europe. But Moscow is not even going through the motions.

So Nato may (possibly, that is, rather than probably) have to respond to the reinforcement of Soviet armed forces in Europe by improving equipment and firepower.

This would be, not for the first time, the very opposite of disarmament and arms limitation. But this is a sector in which unilateral advance concessions are not to be recommended.

Militarisation is gaining momentum in the East bloc. Compulsory military training at GDR schools is no more than the latest instance.

The East has yet to appreciate the wisdom of Livy, the Roman historian who wrote that "the certainty of peace is better and safer than the hope of victory."

Wolfgang Wagner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 5 August 1978)

Nato alarm on Warsaw Pact moves

Warsaw Pact forces are now expected to be battle-ready in four to six hours — half the previous time. East bloc tanks are replaced by new models every five years now instead of every ten.

Motorised artillery and new low loaders enable the Kremlin and its allies to move men and heavy equipment forward in reduced time.

East bloc air forces have been re-equipped for an offensive role. All this obviously worries Nato. Disappointment that détente policies have failed to bring



disarmament is accompanied by growing unrest.

Warsaw Pact manoeuvres have also recently included that East bloc forces are planning to attack rather than to defend.

Yet the United States has made a number of unilateral arms limitation

concessions to which the Soviet Union has so far failed to respond.

America has, for instance, postponed development of the neutron bomb and shelved plans for a sophisticated new strategic bomber.

Washington has agreed to equip nuclear bombers with Cruise missiles (feared by the Kremlin for their accuracy) limited to a range of 2,250 kilometres (1,400 miles) to reduce the direct threat to Soviet territory.

The US has also agreed to include Cruise missiles among the multiple-warhead missiles limited by the next Salt treaty.

Nato not only feels that the Soviet Union has made no concessions in return — the Kremlin has also felt to be pressing ahead with a new missile out-

Continued on page 7

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■ POPE PAUL VI

'The Pope who held his hand over me' - by theologian Hans Küng

Theologian Hans Küng of the University of Tübingen, author of the controversial work *To be a Christian and Does God Exist?* and a critic of Pope Paul VI on questions of papal infallibility, speaks to *Die Zeit* of the Pope he knew.

If we compare him with Pius XII and John XXIII, it is difficult to describe Paul VI as a great Pope. Nor is it possible to describe him as only a minor one. It is typical of Paul VI's personality that it appeared in an ambivalent light.

He did not want, like Pius XII, to lead the Church in the old authoritarian style, nor in the new pastoral and ecumenical style of John XXIII. He attempted to achieve a synthesis between the styles of his two great predecessors.

The ambivalence lies in the contrast between his great intentions and relatively meagre results, the great gestures and the often minimal achievements.

There were great gestures towards the Third World, where his ambitions to a certain extent resembled those of General de Gaulle, whose journeys, like those of Paul VI, were of stylistic significance rather than leading to real results.

He also made these great gestures in relation to ecumenical approaches to the churches and reforms within the Church and also in relation to the modernisation of the Catholic Church.

Even his opponents will have to concede that Pope Paul clearly only wanted the good. At a time in which politicians here and in other countries often have difficulty proving their moral integrity, this is a quality worthy of respect. Here a man whose moral integrity and pastoral commitment were beyond all doubt was in a position of the highest responsibility for 15 years.

Paul VI was remarkable for an almost excessive sense of responsibility and he undoubtedly wished to continue along the same lines as John XXIII and complete the task of the Council.

He made admirable attempts to communicate with the other Christian churches and to help give the Roman Catholic Church a new view of modern society. But precisely in these two respects he encountered difficulties within the Roman system which he could only partially overcome.

In fairness to him, it will have to be said that Paul VI's family background, his seminary education, his career, most of which were spent in the Roman Curia, and, above all, the very traditional theology which he learnt all prevented him from making the decisions which would have put his intentions into practice.

Finally, he remained a prisoner of the Curial apparatus and Curial theology on issues where he was not tied by Curial theology, such as social questions, questions of development, policy and of opening up towards the East. Paul VI did not hesitate to make courageous pronouncements.

Wherever he was tied to the "infallible" teachings of the Church, he found it impossible to introduce reforms. This was nowhere clearer than in the ques-



Pope Paul VI: an attempt at a synthesis of the styles of his two predecessors (Photo: KNA)

tion of birth control where, as I know from a personal conversation with him, he certainly had every intention of presenting an understanding solution of this problem for the people of today. But as soon as he realised that if he approved certain methods of contraception he would be going against the dogma of his predecessors and the earlier episcopacy, he retreated.

Here he should have looked again at the question of the infallibility of the Church, but his curial education and basic attitude made this simply impossible. His advisers could not suggest any solution, any way of not coming into conflict with the question of infallibility. And he himself could find no way of stating, on the one hand, that contraceptives were immoral and, on the other, that they could be allowed.

It would be unfair to accuse him of lack of understanding for people in this context. He often said that on the basis of his beliefs he could not decide other

than he did. He suffered greatly in this situation. Such were his limits.

The same applies to his attitude to ecumenical matters. He certainly wanted reconciliation with the Eastern churches in particular. His visits to Jerusalem and Constantinople were not in vain and he received the ecumenical Patriarch Athanasios in Rome. But he could not find a theological solution in terms of the First Vatican Council's definition of the

He did not see a solution for the problem of recognising Protestant institutions and bodies on the basis of the present constitution of the Catholic Church. This was the reason why no progress was made on the question of a common communion service for the Catholic and Protestant churches. Again and again, the narrowness of dogma pre-empted papal jurisdiction and infallibility, and so he was unable to bring about a real reconciliation with the other churches.

Bavaria CSU looks at the church

tion view of man and all forms of collectivism.

This is not meant as a plea for "apolitical Christianity" because a Christian party must be concerned with bringing "religious motives into political activity", provided these motives conform to the "Christian view of man."

It is clear from the document that the CSU has discovered the churches as a new field of action and the churches must realise from the document's recommendations that there are powerful forces in the CSU anxious to put them on the right course.

The party does concede—in contrast to Biedenkopf's thesis—that "it should

vented the late Pope from reaching pastoral solutions.

This applies with equal force to social questions. On the one hand, he believed that women should occupy higher positions in society and said so on various occasions. But when it came to taking a step in this direction in an important test case, that of the ordination of women, he rejected this out of hand.

He fought for an improvement of conditions in Latin America, but on the matter of birth control, where the power and dignity of his word could have had tremendous influence on stopping the population explosion, he was unable to provide a solution.

His strange battle on two fronts against the traditionalism of the conservative and progressive solutions in Holland was equally contradictory, particularly in the questions of the new Dutch catechism for adults and the vexatious question of the celibacy of priests, which led tens of thousands of Catholic priests throughout the world to give up the priesthood.

Personally, I was glad that Pope Paul did not excommunicate Lefebvre and the traditionalists. Thus this issue remained open and the way towards a future reconciliation still exists. I would have approved if the Pope had allowed those who wanted to do so to celebrate the mass in Latin. But here too he was tied by Roman legalism which, paradoxically, in this case, commanded progress. After the new rule had been laid down, it should have been observed unconditionally. If he had said this he would have saved himself innumerable difficulties.

One thing I would like to say: I am grateful to Pope Paul for the protection he gave me throughout the years. I met him when he was a cardinal and spoke to him later. No-one could have prevented him from taking a tough line and imposing punishments in the vehement debate on infallibility. Even excommunication would have been possible.

I know that in my case and others his guideline was to act on a basis that is not with legal and disciplinary means, but to attempt to find a solution and at all events to avoid an open break.

There were and still are people in the Curia who did not understand this approach and would have preferred, indeed still do prefer, tougher measures. I am perfectly aware that if the Pope had only nodded approval these forces would have got their way.

(Die Zeit, 11 August 1978)

■ THE LAW

Human Rights Court gives judgment on two issues

Citizens of West Germany have in two cases complained to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg that the Federal Republic has violated their rights and the court has found the country guilty in one case and innocent in the other.

For the first time the Federal Republic has been found guilty of violating human rights by this court.

Ear, nose and throat specialist Dr Eberhard Körtig had complained to the court about the excessive duration of an administrative court case in which he was involved. In 1967, the Wiesbaden authorities refused him permission to run his private clinic and in 1971 they refused to allow him to practise as a doctor.

The Frankfurt administrative court took until June 1976 to reject Körtig's complaint about withdrawal of permission to practise. Körtig appealed. In May 1978 the Hesse Supreme Administrative Court rejected this appeal. The hearing on whether Körtig should be allowed to run the clinic is still not over after 11 years.

Unlike the Federal Constitutional Court, the Strasbourg judges decided in their binding ruling that "a reasonable length of procedure" had been exceeded. Administrative courts were also subject to article six of the European Human Rights Convention which said justice should be administered within a reasonable space of time. The court will rule on compensation later.

Since then Europe's human rights judges have ruled on another matter which caused a greater sensation in this country. A fortnight ago the European Human Rights Commission held that the accusation that the authorities had subjected the "hard core" of the Baader-Meinhof prisoners to "isolation torture" was "evidently unfounded."

Two members of the commission visited the prison cells in which Gudrun Ensslin, Andreas Baader and Jan-Carl Raspe lived until their deaths on 18 November 1978. Their conclusion was that there was no question of isolation.

The Human Rights Commission said they were also "convinced that there were good reasons for subjecting the plaintiffs to increased security measures." The prisoners' argument that they had not had a fair trial because public opinion had been mobilised against them was unfounded.

Finally, the commission said that on the basis of expert medical opinions there were no grounds for believing that the prisoners had died as a result of their imprisonment.

Born Minister of Justice Hans Jochen Vogel welcomed the court's ruling as "an important contribution to clearing up Germany's image abroad."

What are the European Human Rights Commission and the European Court of Human Rights? They have nothing to do with the European Economic Community Court in Luxembourg. On 3 September 1953 the European Human Rights Convention came into force, since ratified by all 19 members of the European Council except Portugal.

To ensure that the basic freedoms described in the convention were upheld, the European Human Rights Court was set up. The Human Rights Com-

mission is a subordinate body which decides whether a complaint is valid and strives for "an amicable agreement between the parties."

If agreement cannot be reached, the Human Rights Court, with a chamber of seven judges, then reaches a majority decision. The court can rule that the victim of a violation of the convention should receive "appropriate compensation," and this is binding for signatory states.

The Committee of Ministers of the European Council ensures that the court's rulings are respected. States and individuals can complain to the court about alleged violations of human rights. Up to 1977, eleven complaints had been brought by member states against one another and 7,800 complaints laid by individuals or groups against states. Only 146 of these complaints were declared admissible.

In the past the Human Rights Court has looked into blemishes on the Isle of Man, military discipline in the Netherlands, Belgian regulations on the language of tuition in schools, obligatory sex education in Danish primary schools and the long periods of remand in German and Austrian prisons.

The human rights judges have dealt with the Cyprus conflict and the political situation in Greece after 1968 while the colonels were in power, the problems of Ugandan Asians in Britain and various events connected with Northern Ireland. The court has so far found on seven occasions that violations of human rights have occurred.

From the German point of view, the case of Ingrid Brückmann is of particular interest. After she fled from the GDR this girl, then 17, confessed that she had killed her father after he had sexually assaulted her. A West Berlin court ruled that she should be extradited to the GDR.

She took her case to the Human Rights Court. In 1975 she was tried in West Berlin and sentenced to two-and-a-half years. As she had already spent two

and-a-half years on remand, she was released. She then withdrew her complaint to the Human Rights Court.

The European Human Rights Commission has 18 members, one from each state in the European Council which has ratified the convention. The Committee of Ministers nominates the judges from lists provided by the national delegations in the parliamentary assembly. The German representative is Professor Frohwein of Bielefeld.

The European Human Rights Court has 20 members. The eighteen judges from the countries which have ratified the convention are joined by a judge from Portugal and, more recently, one from Spain. They are nominated on recommendations from governments and the Committee of Ministers of the European Council and have a nine-year term of office. Hermann Mosler of the Federal Republic is vice-president of the court.

Constitutional Court rejects appeal on contact ban

The Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe has rejected a complaint about the contact ban law which imposes restrictions on contacts between imprisoned convicted or alleged terrorists or with the outside world.

The ruling means that this ban is compatible with the constitution, the Basic Law.

The constitutional complaint had been brought by three prisoners: Klaus Jänschke, Sabine Schnitz and Siegfried Haag, and by their lawyers.

In its verdict, the court refers to the need for certain "precise definitions" of the law which stipulate the circumstances in which a ban can be imposed. These definitions are intended to prevent abuses of the law.

The verdict of the Federal Constitutional Court says the contact ban is

Herr Mosler, director of the Max Planck Institute of Foreign Law and International Law in Heidelberg, is also a member of the International Court in the Hague.

In his opinion, the importance of the European Human Rights Court has "increased considerably in recent years" because the court has been constantly concerned with legislation in many areas. The court has an important part to play in terms of European unity in harmonising basic rights in Western Europe.

"The court's rulings only apply in the individual case but the countries involved usually change their legislation accordingly afterwards," says Herr Mosler.

According to him, the European Court cannot be expected to rule on social rights, for example, the right to work. The Human Rights Convention would first have to be amended.

The Strasbourg judges have had no shortage of controversial cases. Apart from the English thalidomide issue, it is now dealing with two interesting German complaints. One is about the admissibility of court interpreters' costs for foreign workers. The other case is concerned with the German law on begging. A ruling is expected on this early next spring.

Ludger Kühnhardt
(Deutsche Zeitung, 28 July 1978)

Can CDU afford Filbinger?

Continued from page 3

account the situation in those days, the external compulsion and internal confusion and implication in guilt.

The Filbinger affair could have been an instance of at least trying to show the younger generation what happened during the war and how it came about.

But Hans Filbinger has prevented this with his narrow-mindedness and self-righteousness, and that, in the final analysis, is why he had to go.

Yet the conflict remains; it has merely been papered over. He is, for instance, to retain leadership of the Baden-Württemberg CDU.

This may well have been no more than a compromise to make it easier for him to resign and possibly lend greater credibility to his resignation statement.

But it is an ill-advised compromise, since no-one will seriously believe that the contradictions inherent in this party-political manoeuvre will vanish of their own accord.

It is surely wrong to reckon that Hans Filbinger is still a vote-winner among people who feel he has been victimised. They are hardly likely to vote for the party that chased him out of office.

Dr Filbinger is not alone in fabricating a legend of this kind. One can more or less understand his motives. He evidently is unaware that he cuts a sorry figure as the standard-bearer of freedom.

But others would do well to note that they are doing neither themselves nor their party nor their country the slightest good by attributing Filbinger's downfall to all manner of dark forces—to anyone, in fact, but Filbinger himself.

It may come hard to some. Hans Filbinger was more than a mere party official, especially in his home state. But the CDU has no need to behave as though it has no leaders left who can pursue conservative policies without the risk of having skeletons found in their cupboards. This is simply not the case.

Hans Reiser

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 9 August 1978)

As long as there was a danger that people believed to belong to organised terrorism were pursuing anticonstitutional aims from within the prisons and attempting to influence the fate of endangered persons, "the constitution, in the interests of the preservation of the state and the fulfilment of the state's obligation to protect the life, health and liberty of its citizens, tolerates the use of the contact ban law."

The purpose of the clearer definitions "in the interest of the protection of the basic rights of prisoners" was to ensure that a contact ban is not imposed if there is no real danger of the prisoner influencing events outside the prison.

The danger which the contact ban is designed to meet would also have to justify the breaking off of contacts between the prisoners and between the prisoners and the outside world, the judges said. Finally, the contact ban should only be imposed where the same and could not be achieved by less drastic measures.

The court says unequivocally that the contact ban, despite its short-term restriction of rights, meets the conditions laid down by the Federal Constitutional Court for fair legal procedures.

Hans Hofeld

(Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 August 1978)

■ ECONOMY

Bonn helps starters, research

Bremer Nachrichten

Loans to business beginners and subsidies for small companies' research and development are two ways in which Bonn plans to reflect the economy as promised at the July economic summit.

Long-term loans at low interest rates for new businesses are under serious consideration. The Cabinet has ordered a report from the Economic Affairs and Finance ministries.

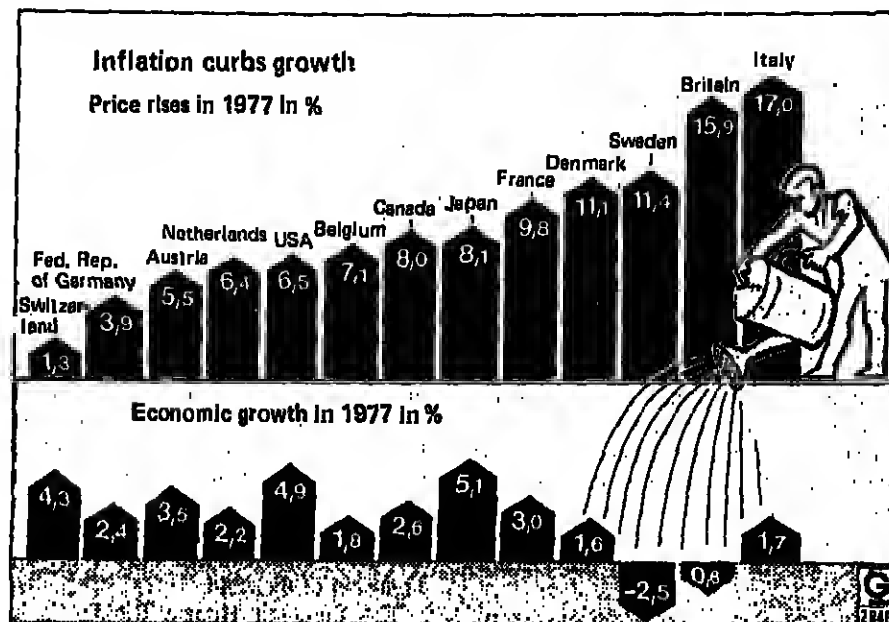
Starting next year, small and medium-sized companies will qualify for research and development payroll subsidies. DM300m has been earmarked.

The problem with business beginners is how best to help. Bonn feels the best way would be to help them to raise the initial capital, but other ideas are also to be considered.

People trying to set up in business have often failed because they lacked the initial capital, without which they did not qualify for ERP loans (from post-war Marshall Aid funds).

Bill various options are under review. Loan guarantees by the federal government.

Capital loans at preferential interest rates for an initial period.



Capital loans appropriate to the cash invested by the individual businessman, bearing in mind the total cost of the project.

Special depreciation allowances as a tax concession to help businesses survive the tough initial period are also being considered, according to the Economic Affairs Ministry.

The programmes to help business beginners are also to be coordinated by one government department using uniform procedures.

Research and development payroll subsidies for small and medium-sized companies will be available from next year, prompt action being needed because wage bills account for up to two-thirds of budgets.

Officials are still working on details, but greater use will definitely be made of industrial organisations such as the

80-member Confederation of Industrial Research Organisations.

It also remains to be seen where the line between large and medium-sized companies will be drawn. Companies may no longer be eligible for subsidies when turnover exceeds a certain level.

One of the aims of the payroll subsidy is to encourage industry to extend research capacity.

DM370m in ERP funds will be set aside for environmental conservation and innovation promotion from next year.

Investment loans towards environmental or innovative programmes will be made firstly to small and medium-sized companies and to companies in West Berlin.

As an additional boost, Bonn has decided to supplement ERP funds via the federal budget. *Gerhard Weck*
(Bremer Nachrichten, 5 August 1978)

Comecon puts its money on capitalism

DIE WELT

Benin had no scruples about using capitalism to help boost Soviet industrial development, and his successors have been no less ready in the 70s.

Comecon capital investment in the West totals roughly \$1,000m, according to figures recently published in Warsaw.

Of 312 companies listed, 223 are in trade and most of the rest service capital and industrial goods exported to the West or are freight and forwarding agencies.

The Soviet Union heads the list with 34 companies registered in the West, followed by Poland with 65 and Hungary with 58. The GDR is an also-ran with 15 ventures in the West.

Most (54) are registered in the Federal Republic of Germany, followed by Britain (48) and France (42). Sixteen East bloc companies are registered in the United States and eight in Switzerland.

Early this year Hungary and Yugoslavia went on the offensive. Hungary set up a holding company in Luxembourg to raise loans from Western banks and buy stakes in small and medium-sized companies in the West, even selling up new factories.

Globinvest, the Luxembourg company, is a subsidiary of Interag, which for years has dealt in licence agreements and represented foreign companies in Hungary.

Interag's Laszlo Gerö says Globinvest is intended to step up Hungary's influence on Western management, with the emphasis on precision engineering, electronics and telecommunications engineering.

Last year Interag bought Jorsens, the Danish radio and TV manufacturers, on behalf of Tungsma, a Hungarian company.

The aim of the campaign is to find additional markets for Hungarian exports and negotiate better terms for technology transfer from West to East.

Gerö also expects a Hungarian stake in Western companies to lead to more orders for Hungarian finished goods parts and components.

So, Hungary is on the lookout for companies with modern manufacturing techniques and advanced technology.

A management consultancy is to be set up, probably in Vienna, to supervise and control existing investments, sound out new investment opportunities and service companies in which Globinvest has a stake.

Part of the cash raised in the West is to be invested in joint ventures between Hungarian and Western companies.

Yugoslavia has substantially improved its investment legislation and Gorenje, Yugoslav company, recently bought Kofing, a bankrupt Bavarian radio and TV manufacturer.

Gorenje also owns companies in Westmark, Austria and Greece.

Peter Brinkmann
(Die Welt, 31 July 1978)

■ MANAGEMENT

A boss leads way to brave new world for workers

Nuremberg photographic dealer Hansheinz Port, 55, whose Photo-Porst group annual turnover is nearly DM500m, is a boss with a difference.

Frankfurter Rundschau

He wears corduroy jeans and an open-necked sports shirt and his office is a far cry from the ankle-deep luxury of the usual executive suite — just an ordinary desk in one corner of an open-plan office. Port is neither a secretary of his own nor an office to handle callers.

His desk is accessible to all, and when they move into the new block across the road, management will be even more part of the whole company.

Others may feel this rejection of comfort and prestige is mere affectation. Port sees it as a symbolic expression of a management concept rare in the Federal Republic of Germany.

For the past six years he and his 1,600 workers have been partners in the company. Everyone owns a stake in the firm, has a say in decision-making and shares profits.

Port worked out the details of his co-ownership scheme while serving a prison sentence for reasonable contacts with the GDR.

In 1972 he stopped being managing director and owner of the family firm, continuing as a member of staff like everyone else.

He did not make a present of the firm to his staff, as was frequently claimed at the time. He retained his capital and it still earns him good money. But he gained the reputation of a romantic or even a dangerous social romantic.

He has remained an outsider, not only in his own line of business but also in West German industry as a whole, in his bid to manage successfully a socialised company in a capitalist environment.

Yet even sceptics are bound to admit that his co-ownership scheme has not prevented the company from making money. Since 1972 turnover has increased from DM150m to nearly DM 500m.

Last year the group netted DM7m in profits, which meant that staff got an average share bonus of DM5,000 over their salaries.

This cash is capital which remains invested in the company for a specified period. Staff shareholdings are now larger than Port's own.

There is no proof of a direct link between Port's management concept and the commercial success of his company. Some say the firm could have achieved even better results had it not been for co-ownership.

Port remains convinced that the results are due to this principle and not accomplished despite it. He feels he has demonstrated that economic and political work can be undertaken in this way even in our society.

When he transferred the company to staff ownership in 1972, he did so less with profits than with "humanity" (a favourite word in mind).

Profits were not to be an end in themselves but a means, the end being to enable the staff to work willingly, identifying themselves with the firm.

Dispensing with his role as entrepreneur and sharing out capital among the staff were merely the basis for the next

Staff were also consulted, via the appropriate industrial trade union, in the formulation of job evaluation according to 12 criteria.

The outcome was that wage differentials were no longer as drastic as before. No-one earned less, but eventually the highest-paid staff member was earning only four times as much as the lowest-paid, as against a previous ratio of eight to one.

Worker participation has substantially changed the staff outlook, Port claims. There is increasing willingness to give and take criticism.

Staff are also ready to take above-average workloads. Works council chairman Wagner agrees. Election turnout is extremely high and works assemblies are well attended, even though held outside working hours.

Unlike works assemblies at most other firms, they are often the scene of frank discussions in which committed viewpoints are voiced.

"Staff no longer think in terms of subordination," the works council chairman says. They are more open and readier than workers elsewhere to commit themselves.

What he misses is an even greater emphasis on the idea of the staff being both management and workers, the concept that the company belongs to all members of staff.

Maybe this will be reached when Hansheinz Port moves on to the next stage in his plan: the transition from co-ownership to self-determination at work.

This objective was the cause of a crisis early this year when two senior managers objected to a "total opening in the direction of the shopfloor."

Port, who has come to regard clashes of this kind as almost normal whenever he moves to the left, pushed through his ideas in an authoritarian way to ensure progress towards his anti-authoritarian concept.

The two executives who objected left the firm.

The way is now open for four trial groups to experiment with the latest venture in Port's radical democracy.

They have been given no instructions on how to proceed towards self-determination and shopfloor democracy. "The means is the end," says the works council chairman, who is all in favour of the innovation.

In other words, the four groups are to find out for themselves whether dispensing with superiors altogether is best and how best to organise their daily routine.

The experiment will last two years or so. An academic survey will follow its progress, probably financed from public funds, to see how the results could be applied the company as a whole (or, indeed, to others).

In conversation with Port it is soon apparent that he still regards the experiment as his life's work, although nominally he is now only one of several heads of department and spokesman for the management.

Last year he announced his intention of relinquishing these posts too in 1978, but because of trouble at management level he decided to stay.

He now plans to retire next year or the year after, but it is hard to imagine him without a say in the shape of his shopfloor self-determination scheme.

Rudolf Grosskopf

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 August 1978)

Nato alarm

Continued from page 1

side the Salt terms of reference. Development of the SS 20 rocket, represents after ten years of disarmament, has now reversed the trend under a Labour government.

Advance supplies have been laid on for ten US divisions, to be airlifted to Europe within a fortnight should the need arise.

A US brigade has been posted to north Germany — the soft underbelly of Central Europe — and a Dutch brigade is shortly to head east into Germany.

Moscow has also noted that Britain, a further threat to the security of Western Europe.

The SS 20 is reportedly capable of hitting any target in Western Europe. So might the Salt talks not simply be tempting the two sides to circumvent their terms of reference and accelerate the arms race?

A further question arises from the evident increase in defence preparedness of the West's part.

The United States is showing greater determination to protect Western Europe than for many years, and Russia is well aware of this.

Nato officials are wondering whether this increase in defence preparedness by the West is one reason why the East, too, is stepping up preparations for an offensive.

At Nato headquarters the Soviet strategy is felt to be twofold: — maintenance of Warsaw Pact numerical superiority and simultaneous priority for developing Soviet arms technology to eliminate Nolo's receding advantage in sophisticated weapons.

Is it still right to say that the Soviet Union is a global military power, but not a world power because it lacks the ability to meet the demands of domestic consumers, satellites and developing countries?

If this is no longer the case, an even graver threat from the East is an even stronger likelihood say Nato officials in Brussels.

Hermann Bohle

(Kölnischer Nachrichten, 1 August 1978)

Koblenz works out the price of red tape observance

The Koblenz chamber of commerce and industry has coined the term "red tape expenditure" as a ledger entry for the cost of filing in forms, complying with legal regulations and generally keeping officialdom happy.

In Koblenz red tape costs companies an average DM53,000 a year, a survey of 260 companies shows.

The city is typical of West Germany as a whole in its industrial and commercial structure, and companies say red tape costs them the equivalent of three per cent of turnover.

The percentage varies, of course. Small firms spend up to 4.35 per cent of turnover on keeping officialdom happy, large companies only 0.25 per cent.

In cash the figures sound much more alarming. Firms employing less than ten spend DM18,000 a year on red tape. Companies with between 200 and 500 employees spend DM162,000 a year. Large corporations with more than 1,000 staff spend nearly DM500,000 a year.

The chamber feels these figures are not only alarming but also one of the main reasons why small companies (as opposed to tradesmen and large corporations) are no longer as dynamic as they used to be.

They are published in a survey en-

titled What Makes Businessmen Feel Unsure of Themselves: Psychogram of Investment Reluctance.

Businessmen, the survey claims, feel unsure for a variety of reasons. For instance, 50 per cent feel the government is no longer as firmly committed to the free-market economy as it used to be.

Only one businessman in eight feels the government is now a stauncher steward of the free-market economy.

Trade unions are reckoned to be the main adversaries of the free-market economy.

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■ ENERGY

Jet finally takes off on way to nuclear fusion

Jet, the EEC's ambitious nuclear fusion project, was officially launched on 1 August at Culham, near Oxford, on what may prove to have been a historic occasion.

Jet, short for Joint European Torus, is a DM500m research venture to harness nuclear fusion as a virtually inexhaustible source of power generated at less risk to the environment than by splitting the atom.

The project still has a long way to go before electric power is generated from the energy released by atoms fusing. This is not the immediate objective.

The Common Market countries have pooled resources to succeed where national research has failed and convince a growing number of doubters that nuclear fusion is feasible.

Hans Otto Wüster, 51, born in Wuppertal in the Ruhr, is in charge of the project.

It took the nine years to agree on the location of Jet, with Britain and West Germany as chief contenders. The loser, it was agreed, would nominate the director.

Applicants included Klaus Traube, a nuclear scientist in the news some years ago when his phone was tapped by the intelligence service.

But the successful candidate could fairly claim to be half-European, having spent the last seven years at CERN, the European nuclear research centre, in Geneva.

Physicist Hans Otto Wüster has gained a reputation for firm management and a temperament inclined to seek agreement and cooperation.

At CERN he is acknowledged as largely responsible for ensuring that the 400,000m electron volt super proton synchrotron was completed on time, last year and within the budget.

Nuclear fusion, Wüster says, may prove a crucial source of future power, and this induced him to apply for the Jet post.

He will not be plunged in at the deep end in Culham. He should have ample time to acquaint himself with the problems of fusion research at his new particle accelerator.

"The initial phase of construction, trials and the first operational experiments should not take more than four to five years," he says.

The going will then grow tougher, he expects: "We will then embark on trials that are very expensive and may prove extremely time-consuming because each new experiment will entail alterations to the equipment."

This should take five years or so, but Western Europe ought by then to be well on the way to mastering the taming of nuclear fusion.

The Nine will have progressed far enough to risk investing even more money in a prototype fusion reactor, he hopes.

But Wüster and his staff of 350 or so,

including nearly 100 scientists, cannot guarantee success: "If we could, we would dispense with Jet and build a fusion reactor straight away."

"Our problem is that experiments all over the world in nuclear fusion have yet to power can be generated from the fusion of heavy hydrogen and super-heavy hydrogen atoms."

Jet has three main tasks:

— First, the fusion atoms must travel so fast that their mutual repulsion ceases to be an obstacle to fusion, speeds at which they are hotter than the middle of the sun. At between 50 and 100 million degrees centigrade atoms are in a gaseous state known as plasma and no longer encircled by their casing of electrons.

— Second, the Jet-speed atoms must be densely packed to ensure that as many as possible collide and fuse. The density needed is in the order of billions of particles per cubic centimetre.

— Third, temperature and density must be maintained for at least a thousand millionth to a millionth of a second, otherwise the atoms will merely ricochet, not fuse.

Several nuclear fusion research laboratories in both the West and the East have come close to fulfilling one or other of these conditions.

Some, like the Max Planck Plasma Physics Institute in Garching, near Munich, have even succeeded. But none have fulfilled all three requirements simultaneously, or they would have succeeded in starting a fusion reaction, generating the energy that has fired the sun and stars since the beginning of time.

The Common Market countries are now entrusting the Jet laboratories with this task, and Hans Otto Wüster is confident that EEC scientists will help.



Atom robot

Meet Tommy the atomic robot, designed for the Federal Republic of Germany's nuclear "fire brigade." Otherwise known as the MF remote-controlled handling unit, the robot, the latest in a series of devices built by the Karlsruhe nuclear research centre, is a versatile helper. It can get into the most cramped spaces, climb stairs and ramps and move its caterpillar joints to alter its height and length and extend its handling gear. Equipment includes two electric hands, two TV cameras, twin stereophonic microphones, a radiation measuring device and a plug for power tools. (Photo: KNS)

"Laboratories deal openly with each other," he says. "Cooperation in fusion physics is most encouraging, both nationally and internationally."

Dieter Dietrich

(Münchner Merkur, 1 August 1978)

■ TRANSPORT

Hamburg commuters soon to catch a skytrain

Kieler Nachrichten

It's like a moon shot," says Hamburger Hochbahn's Fritz Pampel of Hamburg's latest public transport venture: an unmanned, fully computerised overhead railway.

Dr Pampel's excitement is understandable. Hamburg will be the first city to try the new system, so although it may not incorporate space technology, it is certainly a novel idea.

A prototype has been undergoing trials of Weller in the Ruhr for some time. Plans for the next stage, the Hamburg pilot project providing a passenger service, are ready.

Hamburg has given the project the go-ahead. So has the Bonn Research Ministry. Finance is the only outstanding problem: the two are still arguing over division of the bill.

A 2.2-kilometre (1 mile 660 yards) circuit in the City-Nord area will have three stations serving a large new commercial area holding thousands of white-collar workers from nine to five.

The overhead railway will cost about DM30m to build and DM2m a year to maintain. Hamburg has offered to pay 10 per cent, Bonn is prepared to pay 75 per cent.

"This, Hamburg says, is not enough. The project is mainly experimental and the federal government ought to be prepared to pay 90 per cent."

Once this argument is settled construction teams can install the circuit in time for the international transport fair in Hamburg next summer.

It should prove one of the highlights

Bonn backs the bikers

A fair deal for cyclists is called for in a town planning report published by the Bonn Housing Ministry. The bike could prevent city traffic from grinding to a chaotic halt, planners are told.

The report, entitled The Bicycle in Local Traffic, concludes that in built-up areas with heavy traffic the bicycle is frequently the fastest and most flexible transport.

Cars or buses are only appreciably faster or more convenient over distances of more than four kilometres (two-and-a-half miles).

Cyclists have no trouble with traffic jams or parking bicycles are inexpensive, energy-saving and environmentally sound.

Cycling is healthy too, so the Housing Ministry feels there is every reason for backing a renaissance of the bike in town. Local authorities are advised to extend cycle paths to an easily recognisable network linking most parts of town.

Cycle paths the report says, should ideally be provided for between 30 and 35 per cent of the road network.

Facilities for cyclists in urban areas have not kept pace with the increase in their number in recent years, it concludes.

(Münchner Merkur, 2 August 1978)



Over and under: skytrain planned for Hamburg's City-Nord area will have cars top and bottom running in different directions and be fully computerised. (Photo: MBB)

leus still run in Tokyo and Turin. It is computerisation that brings new dimensions.

The Hamburg overhead will be unmanned and fully automatic. Cabs will be powered by electricity and run at 50 km/h (30 mph).

It will be quiet and run by a small staff. Cabs can run either according to timetable or on pushbutton demand. The longest wait will be three minutes.

Hamburg's cabs will seat 12 and the system can handle up to 17,000 passengers an hour. In the rush hour cabs will be only seconds apart.

Engineering giants such as Demag and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blom have invested at least DM100m in research and development.

The Hamburg trials will run for at least two years. If the system is a success the network can be extended to ten and later 30 kilometres.

Politicians and transport specialists all over the world are interested to see whether the Hamburg experiment will stem the tide of congested city-centre traffic.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 31 July 1978)

Pushbutton bus service on trial

DIE WELT

Wunstorf, near Hanover, population 36,000, has buses running on pushbutton demand since 5 August when timetables were scrapped. Services now no longer even operate along regular routes.

Buses now travel the shortest route between stops at which passengers have hailed them by dialling a code number.

The are fitted out with Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blom equipment and charge normal fares for the distances they cover.

The computer system, known as Retax, is to operate for an experimental eight months. It was opened by Erwin Stahl, parliamentary state secretary to the Bonn Transport Ministry.

The experiment will cost DM5m and is based on a process computer that converts bus stop signals into instructions to the drivers of the five buses.

The buses are eight-seaters and serve 22 stops in the Wunstorf area. They can be called either by phone or by dialling a destination code at the stop.

The computer works out how long the nearest bus should take to reach the caller and flashes a digit on a monitor screen to indicate waiting time in minutes.

Over the distances we cover the next bus cannot take longer than six minutes to reach the stop, a staff member says.

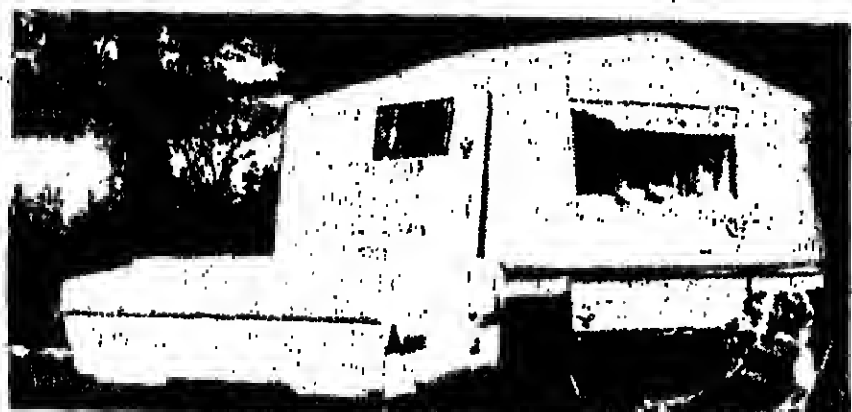
Provided you know the code number of your own bus stop, you can also order a bus by phone. Services operate non-stop from 6am to 10.30pm and are logged and supervised by computer.

The only unknown factor, says Bonn's Erwin Stahl, is how passengers feel about the service.

If the experiment works and improves commercially, it may be extended to the outskirts of other cities as an accompaniment to timetable services.

Wolfgang Meyer

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■ ART

A look at the magic poems of Marc Chagall

An exhibition of Marc Chagall's work at the Haus der Kunst in Munich shows 67 gouaches, including pictures in which Chagall used watercolours, crayon and chalk, plus three wall tapestries woven from his designs, and 142 lithographs and etchings.

An uninitiated visitor might be inclined, on the basis of what he sees here, not to take Chagall's art seriously. The "constructive" side of his work is not on show. It should be remembered that in his young days in Paris, when his studio was in La Ruche, he described himself as a constructivist.

As early as this, Chagall had already acquired the nickname "the poet" in Bohemian circles in Paris. The characteristic poetry which pervades his work, this mixture of Russian and Jewish-Christic legend, the delights of the country and mystical piety was far more powerful and pronounced in his early work and gave him a special position in his disputes with the fauvists and cubists.

An element of surrealist poetry was visible in his work, but Chagall's dreams came from different psychic strata than the over-individualised dreams of Western, city-dwelling surrealists.

Compared with their longings and complexes, Chagall's dreams were collective in nature, religiously inspired. Their typical mixture of memory and legend made them easier to understand, more accessible. They were new fairy tales telling age-old stories. Chagall repeated in his drawings the figures and symbols that occur in his paintings.

Whenever he was at all interested in the individual, whenever experiences and impressions, dreams and meditation inspired him, he immediately put the contemplator of his work on the right track. In his book on Chagall, Hefmann

speaks of the evocative nature of Chagall's works. The paintings evoke thoughts and ideas and awaken associations.

The secret of Chagall's success and of his popularity is the way he formulates the non-definitive. His paintings are through-stations, remarkably transparent and easy for the contemplator to pass through. Particularly in his late work, to which the Munich exhibition is devoted, the contemplator has the freedom to penetrate the paintings.

None of the perspectives oblige us to view the painting in a particular way. There is no naturalistic depiction of things which imposes limits on our longings. The legend of man and woman as one being resists again and again, as does the depiction of how the difference between the sexes is overcome. Everything Chagall draws or paints is eroticised, the magic of his poetry is everywhere.

The limits of these longings seem to be symbolised by the ass, which reminds us of Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream or the ass in the Russian village or the little old town of Witbesk. This ass appears once as a human mask and even with a hand which pulls a sledge. It is not subject to the laws of gravity.

The cock is sometimes represented with huge eyes, sometimes with a painting on its feathers. We never know whether this image is hidden within or whether the cock carries it around him. The cock belongs in the same category of erotic symbols as the twisted heads, the flying fish and the sirens — a mixture of fish, bird, man and angel — which hovers in the clouds playing the violin. This creature is not an ominous monster but a delightful dream.

The suffering from Eros, the basic reason for all human tragedy, is always left

outside reality by Chagall. There are no psychoanalytic depictions of the desires in his work. Chagall creates a world which is half fairy tale, half circus. Filled with hovering figures, gives the image of a panerotic view of life in which there is no crossing of frontiers because there simply are no frontiers. The logical conclusion is that Chagall has no heroes. He creates a wonderful world in which the victory of one over another is pointless. Apart from his light and panerotic paintings, he also produced works in which the magic of suffering, protecting and conserving is depicted: the Rabbi with the scrolls of the Torah, Moses as the messenger of God, Christ crucified as the symbol of all suffering that men inflict on one another.

Only one, with the naivety of the believer could portray the cross in a snow-covered war landscape in the middle of Paris or show the flight of the children of Israel as ending at Golgotha, as if Chagall were making up for an unfulfilled prophecy.

This is all depicted quietly, almost indelicately, with the natural simplicity of one man among many, of a painter who has not allowed his religious memory to be corrupted by intellect.

In these works, Chagall is meditating on his own origins and upbringing: he did not abandon anything when his eastern mentality encountered the West; he simply amalgamated the disparate and contradictory elements. This is the eminently Russian aspect of Chagall.

Marc Chagall's *The Music*, on show at Munich's Haus der Kunst. (Photo: Katalog)

With few exceptions, the works on show in Munich were all produced in the last 25 years. The graphic for the Bible and the Circus, which Volod urged Chagall to do, were printed late by Terade. Over the years the style became more relaxed, lighter in colour, more open in drawing.

The gouaches, which for Chagall have the function of sketches, attained great mellowness. The old town of Witbesk gradually merged into St Paul de Vence, the painter's home on the Mediterranean. Only the place changed. The symbols, the East-West mixture of life and dream, remained.

In a lithograph he did last year, Chagall portrayed the artist with a tilted eye. That was no accident but a homage to Mnesosyne, whose dearest child he is in this century.

Doris Schmidt
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 August 1978)

How to see angels without turning to stone



Angel from Ernst Barlach's war memorial in Güstrow in East Germany. A copy in the Church of St. Antony, Cologne. This is one of the illustrations from a book on angels by Walter Nigg and Karl Gröning, published by Propyläen Verlag, Berlin.

Walter Nigg (text) and Karl Gröning (illustrations) have just produced a book on angels entitled *bleibt ihr Engel, bleibt bei mir* (Stay, you angels, stay by me), which shows that not all angels are alike.

First there are the cherubim, the elite among the heavenly host. They hover around God, guard Paradise and the Ark of the Covenant. Their four wings all have eyes so that nothing escapes their attention.

The archangels are the more human of the princes of heaven. They appear as knights, beautiful women or wanderers and announce God's messages to the people.

Michael is the guardian angel of Israel. On earth he accompanied Christ, in heaven he weighs the souls of the dead and decides who is redeemed and who is damned.

Gabriel is the proclaimer of joyful events. He told Zacharias that John would be born and he foretold the birth of Jesus to Mary.

Raphael wanders with a pilgrim's staff through the world and protects little children. He advised the young Tobias to catch a fish in the Tigris, to take out its liver and gall and to keep them with him as medicine.

When Jacob had brought his two

wives, two inside and eleven children home, he remained by the banks of the Jabbok and brooded until night fell.

Suddenly a fierce angel appeared, approached him, stroked his face, him and struck him. Jacob struck him back. Then the two wrestled with one another throughout the night. It is a fight to the death. The angel shouted: "Let me go and broke Jacob's hip. But Jacob would not let go and shouted back: "I will not let you go unless you give me your blessing."

When the sun rose, the angel appeared over. The angel blessed his opponent and said: "Thou shalt be called Israel for thou hast fought resolutely with God and man." Jacob limps off with his broken hip and mutters happily: "I have seen God."

Jacob's opponent was, in all probability, an archangel, a messenger of God who, at the same time, God in the form in which he appears himself.

In their homage to the heavenly host, Nigg and Gröning tell the story of the angels of the New Testament, the angels of the Old Testament, whose archangel will appear at the end of the world. They explain how the winged lion figures from Antioch and the Greek goddess of the earth.

■ CULTURE

Unusual look at life and times of the Sahara

The Cologne Kunsthalle is showing an exhibition called "The Sahara" — 10,000 years of desert and pasture, the biggest of its kind to be put on in Europe.

Research in the Sahara, a seven to eight million square kilometre belt which separates the Arabian part of North Africa from central Africa, is, in most people's minds, synonymous with the search for oil.

In fact it is only one side of the preoccupation with this desert, the largest in the world.

The public knows very little about the other aspects of Sahara research, even though German Kaiser Wilhelm II was interested in it while living in exile in Doornik in Holland.

Research on the history of the desert first began in the 19th century as a side-product of colonial expeditions into Africa. The results are now on show at the Cologne exhibition, the first exhibition of this size put on in Europe.

The idea was to demonstrate how tediously dependent man is on his natural environment. Surroundings finally determine the forms of human life: the difference between life in the Sahara in its humid and dry periods demonstrates. "Rock paintings" provide proof of the transition from humidity to aridity.

The desiccation of what is now the Sahara desert began about 2500 B.C. At about this time the flight of the inhabitants of the Sahara into the Nile valley began. Those who remained behind adopted a nomadic form of life, the centres of which were the remaining wa-

terholes, the oases with their date palms and millet seed plantations.

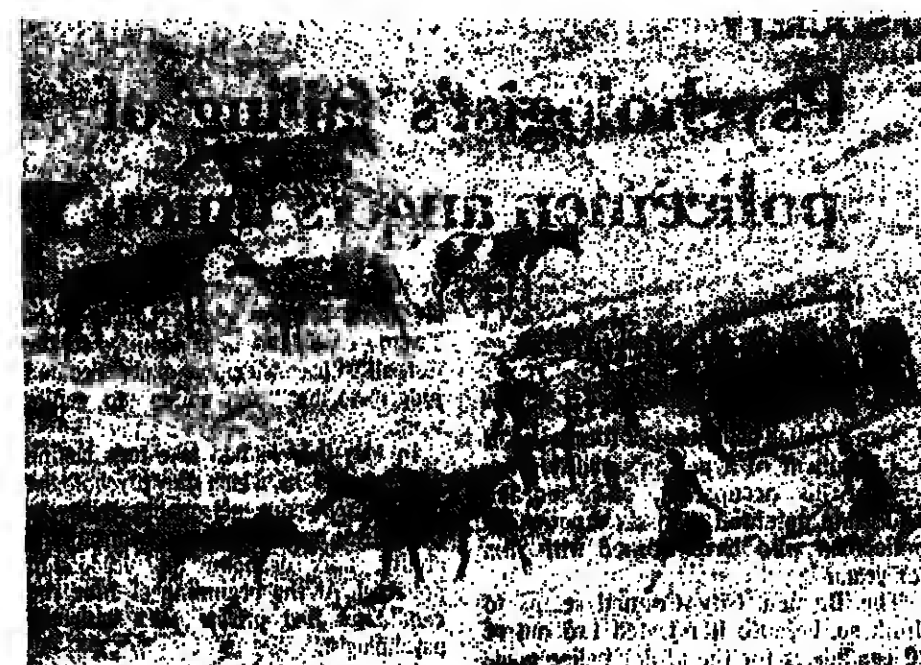
The Cologne exhibition illustrates the transformation from the green Sahara to the yellow Sahara of today. The display is the result of interdisciplinary cooperation between ethnologists, geographers, prehistorians and zoologists.

It was organised by the Rainerstein-Joest Museum of Ethnology, the Cologne University Institute of Early and Prehistoric History, the Zoological Research Institute and the Alexander König Museum in Bonn.

The vegetation of subtropical green Sahara 2500 years before Christ consisted of deciduous trees such as oaks and elms, with an animal population similar to that of central Africa today: giraffes, rhino and crocodiles. The most sensational discovery by Sahara researchers in recent years was proof that this African region had its own culture.

It was long believed that the Sahara's cultural development was basically in the Egyptian and Ethiopian tradition, but the latest Sahara research on show at Cologne shows that the Sahara had a culture of its own thousands of years before the Egyptian high-culture developed.

Archeology in the Sahara has to rely on surface finds because archeologists cannot excavate as in Europe and West Asia. A millet found in the sands of the desert is the first evidence of human activity in the Sahara. With its aid, the



Sahara rock drawing shows man, women, children and cattle and dogs, domesticated animals for farm life. (Photo: Katalog)

first drawings were carved into the rocks.

The way people adapted to changes in the environment is particularly evident in the sequence of rock pictures through the millennia and the representations of animal life. First came wild animals, then cattle and dogs, domesticated animals for farm life.

As the period of desiccation begins, horses predominate and by the time it is complete the camel, an import from Asia, appears in the drawings.

The first drawing of human beings from about 5000 B.C. is one of the most interesting exhibits, apart from the discovery of Saharan ceramic art.

The sensation of the Cologne exhibition is a small sculpture from the period

between 4000 and 3000 B.C. which proves that animal sculptures existed long before the beginning of ancient Egyptian sculpture.

Sahara researchers have so far been unable to find out anything about the religion of the Saharan population. The Saharan art of 10,000 years ago we can only interpret as aesthetic, we know nothing of its possible religious significance.

This exhibition with its many originals, copies, photographs, drawings and models in an eye-opener for those who thought that the Sahara was always an arid region hostile to human life.

W. Stauch-v. Quilow

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 30 July 1978)

Linguist digs up roots of language

Geologically speaking, this was of no great significance but it had disastrous results for the human race. The Spanish world for terror records these events: the literal meaning of *asombró* is "shadowing over". The Greek word *catastrophe* has the same basic meaning of "turning down". And the German word *bestürzt*, meaning "shocked", literally means "to be shaded or buried".

The archetypes of words from the first language are to be found in the names of rivers and lakes. In the south of France, near Stone Age caves, there is a surprisingly large number of place names ending in *sc* or *aq*, meaning water.

Fester has discovered more than 2,000 names of this kind, names which also occur frequently north of the Pyrenees, which were once free of ice. But they do not occur in the south side, which was covered with ice. There was no water there. Stone Age men used *aq* to describe streams, rivers, lakes, seas, puddles and rain.

The word for water also occurs in the place names Aachen, Achem, Schöneich, Hausach, Wolfach, and Lindach, in the river name Salzach, in the name of Achelous, the Greek river god, and in the name of the Greek river god, and in the name of the underworld. The Indian names Achuga and Achomari indicate that the

se tribes lived in areas where water was plentiful.

The word *kall* meant hollow, cavity, narrow pass, and also woman and many other things. Is it then surprising that in Hebrew *kallah* means bride, and that in Yiddish *kalle* is the name of the beloved?

Then there is the English word *skull*. The word *kalyx* in Greek meant a dome. The Greek name for a habitation, that is, a cave, was *kalla*. In Scots Gaelic a wise old woman is a *keallach*.

Biblical legend ascribes the confusion of tongues to the building of the tower of Babel. This is not far from the truth. When the movements of the earth's crust forced men out of their caves they were forced to build their own caves, huts or houses. The original language was also affected by this new situation and many tongues developed from one.

The men of the Stone Age were quite different from the cliché image many people have. They were not aggressive orang-outang-like creatures who went around beating one another with clubs. They were not at all like car-drivers, whom a university professor has compared to Stone Age men. Stone Age men were peaceful.

The cave bear lived under one roof with his human neighbours. Occasionally the Stone Age men killed one of the bears while it was hibernating, but this crime was accompanied by elaborate rituals in which Stone Age man attempted to placate the angry world-mother. The bones of bears were found in a remote part of Mes d'Azil, hidden here by cave men so that the world-mother or Achelous, the Greek river god, and in the name of the Greek river god, and in the name of the underworld. The Indian names Achuga and Achomari indicate that the

Continued from page 10
tory. They tell of famous apparitions of angels: in the 15th century, for example, Saint Francis saw an angel hovering above Rome in a misty veil.

Francis, of Assisi, saw a seraph on Monte Alverno who revealed to him a secret word which he took with him to the grave. From that day on he had Christ's wounds on his hands and feet.

An angel pierced Saint Theresa of Avila's heart with a glowing arrowhead and she fainted.

No one has ever given a precise description of these heavenly messengers. In the Apocalypse and in Matthew's Gospel, they wear clothes of clouds and rainbows and are wrapped in snow and lightning. Throughout the centuries artists have represented angels as symbols of perfection and purity, power and grace, imagination and beauty. Such are the angels, portrayed by Raphael and Rembrandt, Fra Angelico and Leonardo, Klee and Chagall, whose paintings of angels are reproduced in this book.

There is a good reason why angels have never been described accurately. When the 90-year-old, Saint Anthony wanted to visit Paul in 351 A.D., a wolf led him through the desert. When they arrived, Paul had just died. Anthony and two lions dug a grave and put the body in it. When Anthony broke down in grief, angels came down from heaven and consoled him. From then on Anthony told men: "You would turn to stone if you saw their beauty."

Brigit Saharn
(Welt am Sonntag, 6 August 1978)

(Continued on page 11)

■ SOCIETY

Psychologist's 'failing' of policemen angers union

Bremer Nachrichten

Can a police psychologist form a better judgment of a person's ability, mastery of his occupation, character and leadership potential than six experienced policemen who have worked with him for years?

The Bremen City Council seems to think so, because it rejected two out of 20 candidates for the senior police grade because a psychologist had given them only average marks. The men had been described as top candidates by a committee of six senior policemen. The Police Union has decided to fight the case.

Herr Oetkers, chairman of the Bremen district of the union, says: "We have noticed on several occasions that psychologists had the final say in who was selected for the senior police grade. The candidates they rejected were not even allowed to sit the examination."

The situation was now even more one-sided, he said. A single psychologist had overruled the judgment of six experienced police officers and several preliminary judgments.

The union not only hopes that the Administrative Court will grant an injunction allowing the two candidates to take part in the training for the senior police grade which begins this month. It also hopes that there will be a change in selection procedures.

Herr Volksmann, the lawyer representing the union, says: "It is simply not right that two highly qualified men's chances of promotion should be ruined merely on the basis of the psychologist's judgment."

In his opinion, the documents on the candidates' personal and professional qualities and the judgment of their superiors should have counted for more than the psychologist's opinion. He also expressed serious reservations about the worth of psychological tests in general: "Psychology as a science is not yet so far advanced that these tests can be regarded as definitive, objective and reliable judgments of personality with minimum margins of error."

The sensation at police headquarters

occurred after the council had advertised six posts for the senior police grade. Twenty candidates were admitted to the test, all with considerable experience and judged to be "well suited" to senior work.

In May they had to take tests lasting 200 minutes in which the psychologist tested intelligence, personality, ability to take stress, concentration, organisational ability, work economy and leadership potential. At the beginning of June the candidates had private talks with the psychologist.

Fortunately, they were not told the results, otherwise most of them would not have dared to appear before the examination board in Rotenburg at the end of June. The psychologists had given thumbs down for 12 of the 20 candidates. He gave them a mark, which meant they were disqualified from taking any further part of the examination because their marks were not high enough.

Family life can create a terrorist - psychiatrist

Family circumstances can be decisive in a young person becoming a terrorist, according to the article by a Heidelberg academic in the magazine *Family Dynamics*.

Helm Stierlin of Heidelberg University agrees with historian and terrorism expert Walter Laqueur that there is no point in seeking "the terrorist personality" but considers it quite possible that knowledge of a terrorist's family background can provide vital clues to his development.

Stierlin says that superficially these families do not appear to be disturbed or pathological. On the contrary, in terms of achievements and the social status of some members they are superior to many families. But on closer examination this prominence and superiority turns out to be the cause of serious problems and conflicts.

Stierlin treats at length the family backgrounds of Andreas Baader, Ulrike Meinhof and Gudrun Ensslin. He says of Baader that within the framework of a

In Rotenburg the candidates had to give a talk before the police chiefs and to act as discussion leaders in a forum. The subjects for the talks had been decided beforehand and candidates could only choose between two. At the end of the test, the policemen gave the 12 rejected by the psychologist marks ranging from 1 to 3 (very good to fair). One of the men who has complained was judged the best of the candidates and the second was the second best in a group of ten.

Union chairman Oetkers says the head of the CID has since suggested that leading officials of Bremen and the police should come together to produce a new set of exam regulations. He fears experienced policemen will have little chance of promotion if they can be written off by a psychologist in the preliminary stages.

The policemen's lawyer, Dr. Volkmann, attaches considerable importance to a remark the psychologist is alleged to have made to one of the candidates that he had been "too soft". In a previous selection, had been criticised for this and wanted to set far higher standards this time.

"This remark shows how much the results depend on the tester's attitude and therefore how easily they can be manipulated," says Dr. Volkmann.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 5 August 1978)

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

conventional psychiatric diagnosis he might be classified as an immature, unscrupulous personality. In his case there was a clear long-term family "dynamic constellation" which could explain his fate.

In Ulrike Meinhof's case, too, Stierlin finds increasing pressure and stress, particularly strong during her childhood.

These pressures and conflicts could partially explain her opting for terrorism. In Gudrun Ensslin's case, Stierlin talks of her "being torn inwardly by intense conflicts of loyalty."

Another article in the magazine analyses the results of a poll among students at Heidelberg University. Most extreme left-wing students come from educated, middle class backgrounds. Most were rejected by their parents. In many cases they had strong emotional ties to one parent.

The result is that they feel they have been treated unjustly, hindered or dominated. They feel extreme hatred for the parent whom they believe has frustrated them. They were brought up freely at home, allowed a large amount of personal freedom and not required to conform strictly to bourgeois norms and values.

The report says the following process frequently takes place: the parent they at first felt close to and who then rejected them is hated. Despite this, there is identification with this parent (the aggressor). The young person cannot accept this identification and feels his or her own identity threatened. A critical situation arises in which all kinds of suicidal fantasies occur which promise liberation from the hated parent.

Rudolf Grimm

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 27 July 1978)

What the doctors ordered...

A psychologically disturbed young man in Schleswig-Holstein received treatment consisting of a weekly state-subsidised visit to a prostitute.

The experiment was not a success and the treatment was stopped, says Dr. Manfred in der Beek of the Schleswig-Holstein Land Hospital in an article in the magazine *Selecta*.

Dr. in der Beek says ironically: "Whatever else one may say about the Northern Lights (the people of Schleswig-Holstein), no-one can accuse them of being reactionary in social policies."

The young man who received the unusual therapy came from a poor, fatherless family. His failures in various ways had led to frustration. After leaving secondary modern school he started a number of apprenticeships but did not complete them, and failed to complete some less demanding training courses in a vocational training centre and a workshop for the handicapped.

After the breakdown of a homosexual relationship with a young man his own age, he sought contact with the opposite sex. On one occasion he put his hand up a girl's skirt on the staircase of a department store, was arrested and sent to hospital for treatment.

The doctors diagnosed not only excessive sexual excitability with tendencies towards improper behaviour, but also hebephrenia.

This is a form of schizophrenia which begins imperceptibly during or just after puberty. The symptoms are increasing impoverishment of motivation, emotional desolation and strange and unpredictable ties. There are no obsessions or illusions as in the case of schizophrenia. The doctors ruled the chances of curing him as poor.

According to In der Beek, the health authorities wanted the young man sent to a live-in workshop.

The psychiatrist who was treating him disagreed. On the advice of an Institute for sexual research, he said that instead of being given desire-inhibiting drugs the young man should be given the opportunity to visit a prostitute once a week. The Welfare Office agreed and prevailed on the health authorities to give their agreement.

An examination of the law showed that a visit to the brothel at state expense would be perfectly legal as long as the purpose was to help the young man to integrate, or as "any further measure prescribed by a doctor for the prevention, elimination or reduction of a handicap," or as "assistance towards participation in the life of the community" (paragraph 40 of the Bonn Social Assistance Act).

The authorities were not prepared to allow the young man more than DM20 a week for his visits. This was all he needed as all he required was petrol. For the authorities' files, the prostitute gave the young man a receipt for "sexual assistance" after each session.

The prostitute-cum-therapist could not cure the young man. After six months of treatment a diplomatic step was put to his weekly visits to the red-light district. It had been belatedly realised that a person cannot simply be treated as a sex machine and sent to a prostitute to indulge in a physiological process. A therapeutic plan should have been worked out.

Gerd Sowien

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 August 1978)

■ ISSUES

Self-help group attack on unemployment despair

In Stuttgart, Ulm and Göttingen unemployed people have set up self-help groups to discuss problems.

A 53-year-old woman in a Stuttgart group said: "I look forward tremendously to coming here on Wednesdays." She spoke as enthusiastically as if this were a turning point in her life. The meetings had given her "a bridge to new directions", she said and her enthusiasm was so direct and open that scepticism would have been out of place.

"All the people here are understand-

Jobless get a shot of confidence

The Federal Institute of Labour in Nuremberg is working with a team of American scientists on a special programme to give the unemployed greater self-confidence and thereby help them find work.

The aim is to help the unemployed to get over their failures and give them a more positive and self-confident approach to interviews. Intensive training in groups of five to eight people lasts about four weeks.

The new programme is also meant to find out how problems such as depression and apathy stemming from unemployment can be tackled.

The Federal Institute says there are 750 officials in the country's labour exchanges working in the "psychological service." Of these about 300 are psychologists, 200 are technical assistants and 250 assistants.

The psychological service supports the professional advice centres by providing reports on and giving advice to work-seekers. It also looks after students who have changed subjects or dropped out of school-leavers with poor results and the physically and mentally handicapped.

Every year 150,000 aptitude tests are carried out so that the wishes and motives of candidates can be taken into account when the labour exchange tries to find them jobs.

At the international applied psychology congress in Munich from 30 July to 5 August, the Federal Institute of Labour had a stand giving information on the work of its psychological service. (Frankfurter Neue Presse, 3 August 1978)

ing and willing to listen, we can help one another and we even laugh sometimes."

The members of the group, about 25 people between 25 and 60, gave different reasons why they found their weekly meetings important, but were unanimous in that they were important. It sounded rather like a self-help group of the physically disabled or handicapped talking about their progress in overcoming their suffering, progress they would have been unable to make alone.

Yet when one looks at these people, there is no way of telling what their common problem is. The public knows very little about unemployment — no more than the dry statistics published every month.

The aim of the group is to jointly reduce the stress of unemployment. It takes time for people to become aware of the psychological effects of unemployment and then they have to learn to speak about them. This expression of problems is the main liberating experience.

The group consists of people who have mostly been out of work for a long time, often for years. They suffer from the way society, friends and family often they themselves repress the problem of being out of work.

The Stuttgart group quoted the case of a man who, though out of work, still got up at 6 am, went out and bought his roll for breakfast and then drove off, so that no-one would find out that he had lost his job.

Members of the group told me that, apart from their own family, they did not want their relatives or friends to find out that they had lost their jobs. They were reluctant to give their names because this would mean the illusion they had gone to such lengths to maintain would be destroyed.

One woman said that during their day she often went out into the country to avoid the constant questions of those who knew she was out of work.

At conferences at the Bad Boll Protestant Academy, a number of unemployed decided that they should try to break out of their isolation and organise themselves into groups. After lengthy talks they decided to hold regular meetings to discuss problems and tell the public about their plight.

At the end of the Bad Boll confer-

ence, a number of unemployed formed the Stuttgart self-help initiative. The difference between it and other groups of unemployed formed last year is that it does not work with social workers but is autonomous.

One member said: "Some of the professionals have an interest in our staying unemployed." Then there was the danger that the unemployed would merely be administered and unable to develop initiative.

That members only seek advice from social workers but do not allow them to run the group or tell them what to do boosts their self-confidence considerably. The minutes of a recent meeting of ten such groups in Bad Boll reads: "One of the main problems for all these groups is the constant struggle against loss of self-esteem."

This is why taking part in meetings is for many a way of regaining self-confidence. Being unemployed is hard work. One member says: "Before these meetings I used to consider myself a complete nobody."

The Stuttgart group's meetings last several hours and usually begin with a general chat on subjects from politics to holidays to insomnia. Members enjoy being able to talk freely and openly.

The scope of the weekly programme is wide. Often Bundestag MPs are invited. Instead of being speakers, they are mostly attentive listeners. The minutes of a meeting with Bundestag MP Manfred Wörner (CDU) read: "Dr Wörner was clearly astonished at these matters and took notes."

Since realising how little notion of their problems even those professionally involved with them have, the group been worked hard on information. The director of the Stuttgart welfare Office has addressed them, labour exchange officials come along and hear complaints about being offered and expected to take work below members' professional and income level.

After each phase of unemployment, the employee sinks lower. His social standard goes down by degrees. One member said his income had slumped from DM5,000 to DM800 a month. Many older members are bitter at the fact that their generation, which had to live through World War Two, is now hardest hit by unemployment. "That is too much," one complains.

Trade union representatives have also had to take tough criticism from the Stuttgart group. Members all complained that the unions were not interested in them at all, and that union wage policies and insistence on overtime do not help the unemployed found work.

The unions, they argue, are only interested in improving conditions for those who already have jobs. One member says the greatest foes of the unemployed are those who have jobs: the applause of the others shows they consider this to be the truth.

The group is not only concerned with increasing general awareness of the problems of the unemployed. They want to inform themselves and find ways of improving their lives.

They discussed the question of what jobs they could reasonably be expected to accept with a representative of the labour exchange.

An insurance man explained the possibilities of additional sickness and legal protection insurances.

A pensions expert explains how prolonged unemployment can affect pensions and members discuss with a company psychologist the problems of returning to working life.

No one in the group has given up completely. They would all dearly love to be back at work.

"It would be fine if we could give up this entire initiative altogether," they say. But no-one believes this will be possible. Instead they continue to encourage the unemployed to come out of isolation and build an organisation to give them more influence.

They still have a long way to go. In the minutes of the Bad Boll meeting we read: "It is extraordinarily difficult to bring the unemployed out of their isolation and motivate them to a general commitment beyond their own personal problems."

Theo Wurm

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 2 August 1978)

Isolation of aged worries Opposition

The CDU-CSU has put a parliamentary question to the Bonn government on the situation of old people in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Opposition MPs said public discussion tended to concentrate on the financial position of old people. Many old people were to a large extent isolated, the care of the aged was becoming increasingly institutionalised, and there was "a dangerous escalation of the conflict between the generations."

On the question of earlier retirement, Albert Burger of the CDU said that there was a contradiction between the views of gerontologists and of politicians. Gerontologists said that being able to stop work earlier conferred little benefit.

The Opposition wanted to know the government's response to its view that any further reduction of the flexible age limit for retirement would be discrimination against old people. Bonn should give its view on the possibility of choosing the age of retirement and of regulations giving old people the opportunity to do more part-time work.

Burger said that gerontology in West Germany was underdeveloped; there was not a single university professorship in the subject. Old people should be better prepared for the third stage of life, where loneliness was a great problem. There were 4,577,000 widows and 773,000 widowers in the country.

On the material situation of old people, Burger said there were signs that it had improved but a large number of old people, especially women, lived below the breadline. Statistics showed that in 1980 there would be 180 women to every 100 men over 60. By 1990 there would be more than twice as many old women as old men.

To judge the situation of old people more accurately, the Opposition says Bonn government should find out how many people aged 65 and older living in homes and hospitals for the aged are not able to pay fees from their savings and are dependent on social aid.

Moving into an old people's home should not be synonymous with going to the social security office, Gerhard Braun of the CDU said. It was important to ensure that old people lived in familiar surroundings as long as possible.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 4 August 1978)

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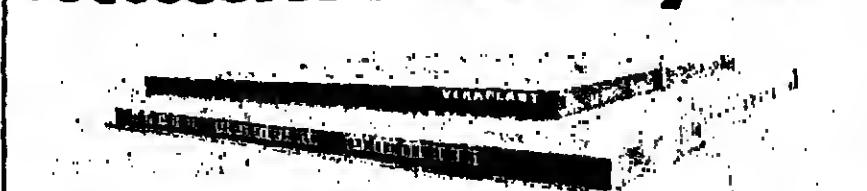
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TOURISM

Bonn campaign fights 'Ugly German' image

Fifteen million Germans will take their summer holidays abroad this year. Why not use them as honorary ambassadors for their country, the government press and information office in Bonn wondered.

It commissioned an advertising campaign based on cartoons by Pilt Flick and designed to remind holidaymakers of the anti-German prejudice they are most likely to encounter, and to suggest answers to the most frequent allegations.

Direct elections to the European Parliament are to be held next year, so Bonn feels it is high time everyone tried to dispel the illusions European neighbours still harbour about the Ugly German.

Preliminary market research on how foreigners saw the Germans revealed, gratifyingly, that the Germans were not as ugly as had been feared.

The first of a series of five double-page advertisements in a wide range of magazines recently appeared, in which hundreds of German holidaymakers are seen arriving at their sun-drenched destination by road and air, sporting an assortment of cameras, skin-diving equipment and other items.

Their hosts are there to welcome them with posters in pidgin German proclaiming that beer and coffee, sausages and sauerkraut are on the menu. The government's advice to holidaymakers is to talk to the locals and not keep to themselves in "snid-tastles" and menageries of their own making.

The Times of London has already voiced approval of the campaign's opening shot and aims. The four remaining adverts each deal with a specific widespread prejudice about the Germans.

The first is that work is the only thing Germans know how to do properly. The cartoon depicts a nation of construction workers busily bricklaying an enormous D (for Deutschland).

There is something in it, the ad admits. The Germans have worked hard in the past decades to transform bomb-flattened cities into the country they want to live in.

But it is simply not true to say that they are incapable of doing anything else but work. Ninety-two per cent of the workforce work a 40-hour week.

Most work only five days a week, and 88 per cent have four weeks paid holiday a year. Three-quarters of a million Germans have opted to retire at 63 rather than 65.

As for life in the Federal Republic being a capitalist free-for-all, holidaymakers

are reminded that a third of the DM200,000 m Bonn budget is spent on welfare.

Besides, there are laws to ensure that the devil does not take the hindmost: the Monopolies Act, worker participation in industrial management, the Works Councils Act, the Rent Act.

The second cliché is best left in German as *Deutschmark, Deutschmark über alles*. The wheels of German holidaymakers' cars and caravans are seen to be deutschmark coins, while the hotelier and restaurateur are willing to welcome them on donkeys.

The argument Bonn advises holidaymakers to use readily and proudly concedes that the deutschmark is a hard currency and that West Germany is one of the world's most highly-developed industrial countries.

But neighbouring countries benefit from this economic strength. They earn a living from German holidaymakers, for instance. And foreign workers remit money home.

"As for the strength of the German economy, it is not the result of a miracle but of everyone's hard work and of a social climate jointly achieved."

The third cliché is that Germans are know-alls. The cartoon shows a top-of-the-class child in front of an international assembly of classmates. He is unmistakably a little German and could well be Helmut Schmidt's grandson.

The argument recommended is that there are indeed Germans who claim to know everything better: "How best to play soccer, how to manufacture the best cars, how to make the best coffee and so on."

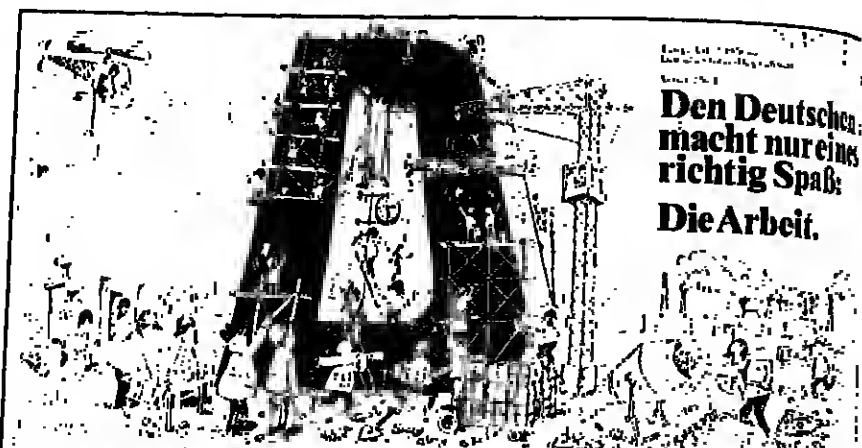
But there is no harm in neighbours exchanging opinions, and the Germans can learn plenty from everyone else: how to resist the temptation to voice their views on all subjects, for instance.

The fourth and final cliché is that Germans cannot rest until everything is strictly ordered. The cartoon shows an old-fashioned and evidently narrow-minded German holidaymaker with the wife, family and dog in command of his sand-castle.

The caption's "My home is my castle" and the sand-castle is bedecked with shells spelling *Burg* (castle) and *Burgfrieden* (truce, precincts of a baronial castle). A few bystanders look on with expressions of amazement.

"True enough, we Germans tend to be orderly and find it hard to convince neighbours that this is a trait to be recommended," the copy explains.

It goes on to advise holidaymakers



Changing the German image abroad: hard work, yes, but not as an end in itself.

Badly need a holiday? Stay at home

Münchner Merkur

Summer holidays can cause problems. The West German Media Association says in an article in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

Many people do not feel up to the task of being the pleasantest weeks of the year, the article says, taking with them on holiday everyday marital, family and work troubles.

What is more, they wildly exaggerate expectations of holiday happiness and freedom and are disappointed as a result. They can hardly fail to go off the track the doctors say.

Heinz Prokop, head of medical psychology at Innsbruck University, says a holiday should feel even sorer for unstable people who are unable to cope with holidays as an "out-of-the-ordinary situation."

Professor Prokop bases this on numerous case histories. The problem: holidaymakers are likely to encounter too many unaccustomed impressions, difficulties and prejudices in coping with people in other countries and the unaccustomed living conditions.

"At times," he says, "feelings of messiness and loneliness can lead to depressive responses."

Among young couples, problems come to the surface on holiday because the domestic system of checks and balances no longer operates.

So, holidaymakers frequently suffer from "vacation psychosis," and, contrary to widespread views, dissatisfaction with the hotel, room or holiday weather is never to blame.

But doctors have neither pills nor advice.

Hans Willenweber (Münchner Merkur, 2 August 1978)



My home is my castle: trying to convince others of the value of order. (Cartoon: Press- und Informationsamt der Bundesregierung)

SPORT

Superbike leaves the opposition standing

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Thirty or 40 years ago motorcycle combinations were the poor man's Volkswagen. Bike and sidecar rolled along on three wheels: not a car, maybe, but a cut above the ordinary motorcycle. But today a new generation of three-wheelers is the talk of the racetracks.

Combinations were less likely to come a cropper and could seat three: two on the bike and one in the sidecar (who had a far safer and more comfortable ride than the pillion passenger, incidentally).

Sidecars also gave sterling service as luggage carriers, and three-wheelers gained a new lease of life as cars and delivery vans.

Tempo and Goliath were the best-known brand-names in post-war Germany. Although they did not always live up to these resounding names, they long remained popular with fruit and vegetable dealers. For years they trundled wares to and from market.

But vehicles on today's roads have either two wheels or four. Even children are reluctant to be seen on a tricycle. The toddler who wants to keep up with the kid next door drives a pedal car or a pint-sized plastic racing car.

Today's three-wheelers still count as motorcycles but look like racing cars, are manufactured like racing cars and travel at racing car speeds.

Rolf Biland of Switzerland, one of the world's best sidecar men for the past four years, and Rolf Steinhausen from Gimmersbach, 1976 and 1977 world champion, have completely redesigned their bikes to what are virtually formula racing car specifications.

Biland, a 27-year-old motor mechanic who heads this season's world championship table, surprised sidecar specialists with a vehicle particularly difficult to pigeonhole.

Is it a bike or is it a car? Biland calls it a hybrid. Most of the components are racing car parts: GT wheels and tyres.



Motorcyclist Rolf Steinhausen with his super three-wheeler: how long will this new generation be permitted to race? (Photo: Sven Simon)

Formula 2 brakes and Formula 1 struts and shock absorbers. Only the engine, a 500-cc Yamaha, still testifies to the motorcycle connection. But it is a 120-hp engine reaching speeds of up to 280 km/h (175 mph). Acceleration is breathtaking: to 100 km/h (60 mph) from a standing start in 2.1, to 200 km/h (125 mph) in 5.0 seconds. A Formula 1 racing car is only half as quick off the mark. Most people will associate sidecars with leather-clad men (and women) performing feats of acrobatics as the combination hared round corners. Good sidecar men are rare, which is hardly surprising.

Rolf Steinhausen, who in crashes, collisions and some-what has broken more bones over the years than he cares to recall, says he "would never even dream of risking life and limb in a sidecar."

Rolf Biland, third, fourth and second in the world championship ratings over the past three years and, all being well, this season's champ, teamed up with his sidecar man more or less by accident.

He had been unable to find a sidecar man in either Switzerland or Germany, so he travelled to a meeting in England on his own.

Just before the race he arranged for a loudspeaker appeal. Ken Williams volunteered to stand in as sidecar man.

That was four years ago. This season, he looks like clinching the world championship with Biland.



Aye, aye skipper

Martina Plagar, 22, of Hamburg, hauls up the mainsail with the air of someone who knows all about it. She should: Martina is the first woman in the Federal Republic of Germany to serve the four-year apprenticeship and qualify as a sailing instructor. She now holds all four tickets of competence in this rapidly growing sport. (Photo: José Camejo)

"He should be ashamed of himself if he does," says Rolf Steinhausen. In the sidecar of Biland's new combination Williams is simply ballast.

All he has to do is weigh the regulation 60 kg (132 lb), not an ounce more, and to sit tight. Acrobatics are no longer required. He does not even have to distribute his weight.

There is no more kneeling, no more lying flat out. He just sits tight in his plastic casing. His only instructions are to hold on and stay put.

Biland's combination is the first in the world to use a two-wheel drive via a rigid axle. Daredevil acrobatics are no longer necessary. His hybrid holds the road without any of that.

"I can't install a set of parallel bars just to give the sidecar man something to do," Biland says blandly. Besides, safety is at stake. "Have you ever tried leaning out of a car window at 125 mph?" He pored over the hundreds of pages of international rules and regulations before getting down to work with two designers. They have wrought a complete change in the appearance of one of motorcycle's traditional much to the dismay of old-timers. When Biland and Williams enter a race, the others are virtually out of the running. They are called in a state of shock. Spectators are first taken aback, then annoyed.

"That is not a motorcycle," they grumble. What they miss is the sidecar man's spectacular acrobatics that used to make up a large part of the thrills and spills.

Steinhausen's sidecar man still stretches his limbs a little. "But only for show," says Rolf Biland. Steinhausen, whose new bike is also powered via a two-wheel axle, admits that he can no longer overturn.

"Even if I turn the wheel as far as it will go at 200 km/h, the worst that can happen is that the combination goes into a flat spin. In days gone by we would have flown head over heels."

No definition of a combination

So the new racing three-wheelers are certainly safer than their predecessors. But they are also fast approaching speeds that make experts such as Kurt Bosch, president of the German supreme motorcycle racing commission, shudder.

"We shall have to decide whether or not to continue giving designers a free rein," he says. "The way things are going we are heading into a blind alley."

"We are well on the way to emulating Formula 1, and Porsche have long since tired of winning without interruption in their class."

But calling a halt to developments is easier said than done. Mechanics and designers all over the world are working on improvements that exploit to the utmost the limits prescribed by international rules and regulations.

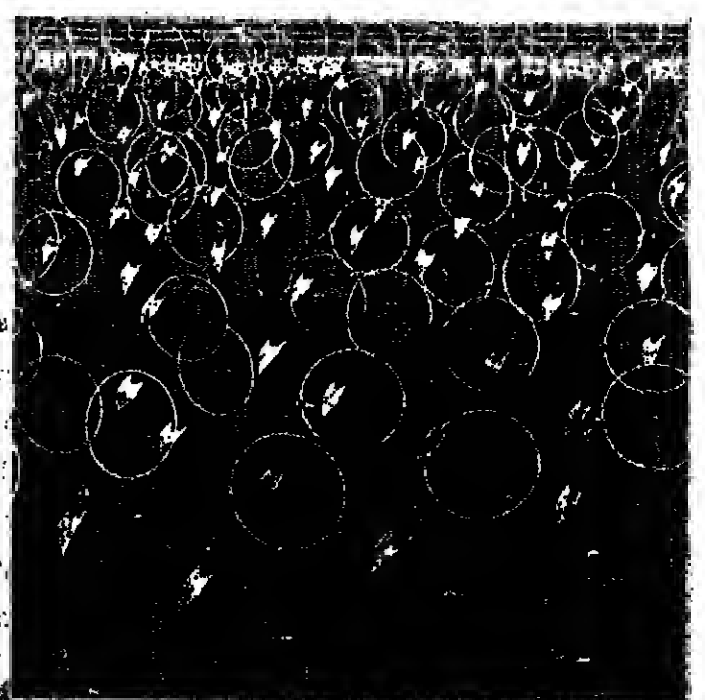
Rolf Biland was merely the first to exploit the major loophole, which is that despite pages of regulations there is no clear definition of what a motorcycle combination should look like.

The next world championship grand prix is at Nürburgring on 20 August, but anyone who wants a chance of winning must be prepared to invest at least DM1,000,000 in a new-look model.

He could then forgo the trouble and expense of hiring a sidecar man. A sandbag serves the purpose just as well.

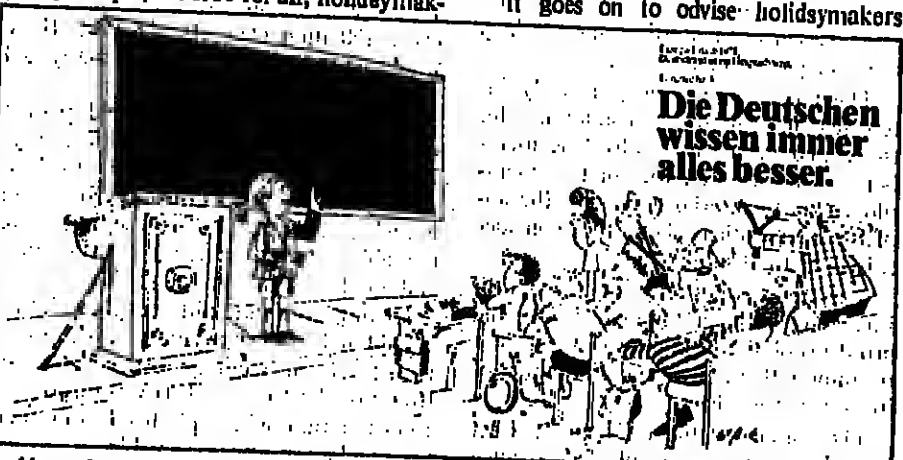
Rolf Heggen

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 August 1978)



Gymnasts galore

Mass display of women gymnasts perform rhythmic exercises at the 21st German gymnastics festival in Hanover. This year 46,000 gymnasts from 30 countries took part. (Photo: Sven Simon)



Hans the know-all: plenty to learn (how to stop knowing everything, for example).